AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 17, line 18, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- PCR primers were designed based on the information of gene sequence of human Dlk (GenBank accession No. U15979). The sequences of the prepared primers were as follows:

Forward Primer: 5'-cgcgtccgcaaccagaagccc-3' (SEQ ID NO: 3)

Reverse Primer 5'-aagcttgatctcctcgtcgccggcc-3' (SEQ ID NO: 4)

To the reverse primer, a restriction site of *Hind* III was added. PCR was performed using these primers and cDNAs synthesized from the total RNAs (TAKARA) prepared from the human liver of embryonic week 10. Then the PCR product was developed in agarose gel electrophoresis, and the desired band was extracted, followed by cloning the amplification product into pCRII vector (Invitrogen) (pCRII-hdlk). Existence of the cloned cDNA of human Dlk was confirmed by sequencing.--

On page 18, line 2, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- In the construction of the expression vector, to attach a Flag tag to the C-terminal of human Dlk, firstly, oligonucleotides encoding the Flag tag sequence were inserted into the *Hind*III/*Sal*I site of pBluescript II SK(+) vector (STRATAGENE) (Sequences: forward side: 5'-agcttgactacaaggacgacgatgacaagtgag-3' (SEQ ID NO: 7), reverse side: 5'-tcgactcacttgtcatcgtcgtccttgtagtca-3') (SEQ ID NO: 8) (pBS-Flag). Then an *Eco*RI/*Hind*III fragment was cleaved out from pCRII-hdlk and was inserted into the *Eco*RI/*Hind*III site of the pBS-Flag vector (pBS-hdlk-Flag). An *Eco*RI/*Sal*I fragment was cleaved out from pBS-hdlk-Flag

and was inserted into the *Eco*RI/*Xho*I sites of pcDNA3.1 vector (Invitrogen) and pMIG vector, respectively (pcDNA-hdlk-Flag and pMIG-hdlk-Flag, respectively).--

On page 18, line 12, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

--For constructing an expression vector which expresses human FA1 , the following primers were designed and synthesized:

Forward Primer: 5'-cgcgtccgcaaccagaagccc-3' (SEQ ID NO: 9)

Reverse Primer: 5'-ctcgaggtgctccggctgctgcaccggc-3' (SEQ ID NO: 10)

In this case, the restriction site of *Xho*I was added to the reverse primer. PCR was performed using these primers and cDNA of human dlk as a template, and the obtained human FA1 cDNA was cloned into pCRII vector (Invitrogen) (pCRII-hFA1). Existence of the cloned human FA1 cDNA was confirmed by sequencing.--

On page 19, line 6, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- RNAs were extracted from the cells of the human cancer liver-derived cell lines using Trizol reagent (Nippon Gene). cDNAs were synthesized from the extracted RNAs using First-strand cDNA synthesis kit (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech), and expression of human Dlk was analyzed by PCR. The used primers were as follows:

Forward Primer: 5'-agagctcaacaagaaaacc-3' (SEQ ID NO: 5)

Reverse Primer: 5'-gcgtatagtaagctctgagg-3' (SEQ ID NO: 6) --